

## About the PAAP

Designed specifically for students with significant cognitive disabilities, the Personalized Alternate Assessment Portfolio (PAAP) is the alternate to Maine's required State assessments (the New England Common Assessment Program [NECAP], the Maine Educational Assessment for Science [MEA/Science], the Maine High School Assessment [MHSA], and the PSAT/NMSQT). The PAAP is a fully implemented academic assessment that provides the basis for achievement and accountability reporting.

The PAAP measures individual student progress towards the 2007 Maine *Learning Results* – the standards which identify what all Maine students, including those with unique learning needs, are expected to know and be able to do. Scores are reported for accountability purposes under No Child Left Behind in grades 2-7 through the NECAP or the PAAP, and through the MHSA or the PAAP during their third year of high school. PSAT/NMSQT participation is required for 10th and 11th grade students to inform teaching and learning. Resulting scores are not reported for accountability. The PAAP also serves as the alternate for that assessment as noted above.

Students taking the PAAP provide evidence of their progress through tasks that demonstrate academic progress towards the common content standards, but measure steps that are backed down developmentally from the levels at which their grade level peers are measured.

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